

Meeting Notes

New Grafton Correctional Facility Community Consultative Committee

Meeting No. 1

14 August 2017 - 6pm – 8.20 pm

Location: South Grafton Ex-Serviceman's Club - 2 Wharf St, South Grafton

Members present:

Chairperson: Margaret Harvie, PlanCom Consulting (PlanCom) - Chairperson

Community representatives: John Griffith, Sharron Lee Todd, Julie Perkins, Martin Oates, Robert Thompson, Tania Williams, Geoffrey Jones,

Local Government representative: Elizabeth Fairweather (Clarence Valley Council)

Northern Pathways representatives: Chris Cox (John Laing), David Magick (John Holland), Michael Page (Serco)

Persons in attendance: Tiffany Jones (notetaker for the first meeting) – will be attending as the Community and Stakeholder Engagement person for the project.

Item no.	Description	Notes/comments
1.	Welcome and apologies	There were no apologies. Margaret Harvie welcomed all the committee members and gave an overview of the selection process and some of the reasons their applications were successful.
2.	Introductions and learning more about each other	Round the room with everyone present saying their name and the reason that they were interested to be on the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Most spoke about their varied involvement in the community and how they might be conduits for the flow of information between the Northern Pathways project and others in the community. Some CCC members spoke also about the positives of the project and their potential concerns.
3.	Discussion about declarations of pecuniary interest	Two members had, prior to the meeting, as required by the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) declared the following potential pecuniary interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geoffrey Jones is a business owner who already provides supplies to Juvenile Justice and the Department of Corrective Services and may have an interest in future contracts through Northern Pathways.• Tania Williams as a TAFE employee is already liaising with Serco as a member of the Northern Pathways consortium to identify training opportunities/ contracts for training future employees. Margaret explained that the key was to identify potential (including perceived and actual) conflicts of interest. This should be managed by the person excusing themselves from conversations during the CCC meetings which could benefit their pecuniary interests. Benefits related to general growth of services and opportunities through the existence of the New Correctional facility are not necessarily pecuniary interests. It is those that are related to direct personal gain that are of greatest concern.

4.	<p>Chris Cox of John Laing spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current status of the contract. • Governance arrangements for Northern Pathways (who is who) 	<p>Chris presented a slide showing the relationships between the Northern Pathways consortium, independent consultants and the NSW Government stakeholders.</p> <p>He gave an overview of the drivers for the government entering into Public Private Partnership (PPP).</p> <p>Talking to the slide (showing the relationships) he gave an overview of how the PPP to deliver the New Grafton Correctional Centre was to work.</p>
5.	Update on Project - David Magick Michael Page	A brief overview was provided of the project design, construction and operational phases and the timing of these.
6.	<p>There were questions of clarification and discussion in relation to the above 2 items.</p> <p><i>Some of the key items of concern have been captured in these notes.</i></p>	<p>What is the biggest risk to the project? Chris explained that risk mitigation was undertaken by extensive planning during project phases, to minimise risk for the NSW Government. The independent verification process is also part of the management of risks.</p> <p>Where is the power and water coming from? This is being managed by Infrastructure NSW</p> <p>Are there any major concerns from the EIS? There were 21 submissions received in response to the EIS which is a relatively small number and potentially indication that there are a number of matters that have been addressed through the documentation or the consultation related to this.</p> <p>In response to this response there was suggestion that some of the EIS documents was not made accessible. John Holland to investigate and get back to the CCC member.</p> <p>What is the definition of local? The meaning is the Clarence Valley LGA and people within an hour drive of the site. But this is an approximate / guideline and someone who was (say for example) 1.20hrs away would not be excluded.</p> <p>Concern raised about safety and mitigation – safety as a result of traffic and potential impact on emu populations.</p> <p>Would there be more media articles about the project? – it was considered that this is an important source of information for the public. To be discussed in conjunction with Infrastructure NSW.</p> <p>The keen interest for many individuals in employment opportunities was raised.</p> <p>Suggestion that there be an open day/site visit for local people. Unfortunately, safety restrictions and issues related to the building site would make this very difficult. An open day could be held when the project buildings were complete and prior to occupation. The CCC will be able to have site visits in vehicles as the project progresses.</p>
7.	Establishing agreement/ questions on the Terms of Reference for the Group Margaret Harvie	<p>We went through the Draft Terms of Reference</p> <p>There were no specific questions about the content.</p> <p>It was noted that Elizabeth Fairweather had not received a copy and so the Chairperson indicated that there would be opportunity beyond this meeting to consider the contents. (Final to be presented at the next meeting)</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about the timing of meetings and this discussion was held over to the end of the meeting</p>

8.	Publication of CCC member contact details	<p>The following process was agreed:</p> <p>All members consent to their names being published on the www.northernpathways.com.au website.</p> <p>Any member of the public who wishes to contact a committee member may do so through the email that has been established by the Chairperson at PlanCom: GraftonCCC@plancom.com.au</p> <p>Text is to be drafted to be included in the next website update. It should indicate that members of the community can communicate with the CCC via this email address and may choose to address their communication to the Chairperson, the CCC as a whole or any individual member. Emails received will be discussed at the next meeting of the CCC or directed to individuals on the committee if it is addressed to that member.</p>
9.	Future meetings Margaret Harvie	<p>The next meeting to be in October.</p> <p>The first meeting had been set for after hours as it is not assumed that people would necessarily be available in the day.</p> <p>After much discussion, it was established that meeting through the day or late in the day would be possible if adequate notice was provided. School holidays periods were to be avoided.</p> <p>It was decided that the next meeting might be 3 hours in duration to cover a number of items of interest and allow for more in-depth discussion on key topics.</p> <p>Topics for the next meeting might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic safety and safety of Flora and Fauna and the relevant Management Plans and planned mitigations. • Roads – update on the progress and the projects coordination with Pac Complete • Bushfire management • In depth update on project layout and range of facilities. • More detail on the day to day operations and planned interface with the community • Other key potential impacts and planned mitigations
11.	Round the table with final questions/ comments about the project/ CCC process	<p>Many had already raised most of what they wanted to.</p> <p>There was one outstanding question about the facilities for visits by children if the women’s prison is to be maximum security.</p> <p>While it would be rated to maximum security, it would contain a mix of cohorts and therefore privileges in line with this.</p>
12.	Close	Meeting finished at 8.20pm